



## Senator Steve Thompson

### Senate District 33



Senator Steve Thompson, a Democrat, has served the 33<sup>rd</sup> senate district of Georgia since 1990. As one of two of the longest serving members of the Senate he holds the position of Dean of the Senate, and serves on the Appropriations, Finance, Banking and Financial Institutions and Transportation committees. During his distinguished years in the senate, Senator Thompson has twice chaired the Senate Transportation Committee and, on a national level, served as Vice President of the National Conference of State Legislatures where he also served as the chairman of that group's Transportation Committee.

In 1998 Senator Thompson was appointed Senior Floor Leader by Governor Roy E. Barnes, and during the ensuing four years never lost a bill that he presented, including passage of extensive Education reform and the creation of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority. Most notably he sponsored and worked for passage of Georgia's Property tax cut of an estimated 400 million dollars.

In addition to currently being the longest serving Senator, Senator Thompson also holds the distinction of having been the youngest member of the General Assembly at the time of his election in 1980 to serve in the Georgia House of Representatives. During his tenure as a state Representative, he was privileged to serve on the three most powerful committees in the House, those being Appropriations, Rules, and Ways and Means. Among his many accomplishments, Senator Thompson's most notable achievement while serving in the House occurred after he was appointed Chairman of Governor Joe Frank Harris' Child Protection Committee in 1985. Under his leadership, the most far reaching children's legislation to date was introduced and passed on behalf of Governor Harris, and as a result the *Georgia Missing Children's Center* was created with the help of John Walsh who helped found the National Center for Missing Children.

Senator Thompson has received numerous awards for his service in the senate and for his dedication to his constituents and the State of Georgia. He has several times been named as one of Georgia's Most Influential People and has been honored as Legislator of the Year by over two dozen state wide organizations.

Senator Thompson grew up in South Cobb County, and attended Pebblebrook High and South Cobb High in the late 60's and graduated from Pebblebrook High. He then earned an Associate of Science Degree from Kennesaw State University (KSU) where he later served on the KSU Board of Trustees. In 1984, Senator Thompson graduated from the Georgia School of Banking through the University of Georgia.

Senator Thompson served in the United States Navy and was a crew chief on the flight deck of the USS Forrestal. Following his Navy service he worked a short time alongside his brother (Cobb Commissioner Woody Thompson) in the family business after which he was appointed to serve as Assistant to the Chairman of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners.

In 1977, Senator Thompson was instrumental in creating and operating the first professional marketing effort of the Georgia State Bank, where he became a vice-president. Years later he became a founding member and served on the Board of the New Georgia State Bank. This bank grew to a worth of 4 billion dollars, and after 25 years of growth, was merged with RBC Bank. Senator Thompson has also owned and operated the Affiliates Group in Marietta, Georgia, and was a minority partner in American Transit Display Systems until the sale of those entities.

Senator Thompson has long been active in civic and community affairs and has been honored with many entrepreneurial awards for outstanding service. He has also served as Vice-Chairman of one of the nation's largest Chambers of Commerce.

Senator Thompson is a member of the Powder Springs Baptist Church. He resides in Marietta, Georgia with his wife Karen, and is the father of one daughter, Amy Hill, and the exuberant grandfather to four boys and one girl.